Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A voice synthesis apparatus for analyzing characters including a symbol character and for outputting the characters by voice synthesis, comprising:

a first detection module that detects a paragraph section having a <u>recurrent string pattern</u> ~~repetition of a plurality of kinds of a symbol~~ based on a character column in one line<u>, wherein the recurrent string pattern comprises a plurality of strings each including a plurality of kinds of symbols</u>; and

a voice synthesis module for performing voice synthesis for a rest of <u>the</u> character column<u>, after</u> deleting the <u>paragraph section</u> ~~symbol character column interval~~ from the character [[line]] <u>column</u>.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A voice synthesis apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~said paragraph section character column~~ <u>the recurrent string pattern</u> is comprised of ~~a character column pattern in which a pattern of~~ one [[unit]] <u>kind of symbol</u> <u>that</u> is repeated [[at]] a plurality of times <u>and another kind of symbol</u> ~~as definition of m-symbol column constituted by n-kind of symbol as one unit~~.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A voice synthesis apparatus according to claim 2 [[1]], wherein [[said]] the paragraph section includes the another ~~character column is comprised of a special one~~ kind of symbol ~~of the n-kind of symbol is~~ added as a ~~to the~~ last character of [[a]] the character column, at an end of the recurrent string pattern ~~in which a pattern of one unit is repeated at a plurality of times as definition of m symbol column constituted by n-kind of symbol as one unit~~.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A voice synthesis apparatus for analyzing characters including a symbol character and for outputting the characters by voice synthesis, comprising:

a [[first]] detection module that detects symmetry of a row of a symbol character column based on a character column in one line; and

a voice synthesis module for performing voice synthesis for a rest of the character column, after deleting [[the]] symbol character column ~~interval~~ intervals from the character column that have been detected as having symmetry by ~~line when~~ said detection module ~~detects symmetry of a row of a symbol character column~~.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A voice synthesis apparatus according to claim 4, wherein [[a]] respective symbols of the symbol character column intervals have symmetry with respect to shape ~~detected by said detection module is a symbol of which a pair of symbols at symmetrical positions in a symbol column of symmetry~~

~~shape is the same~~.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A voice synthesis apparatus according to claim 5, <u>further</u>

<u>comprising</u> ~~wherein~~ a count module for counting up ~~is provided~~ when a pair of symbols

at symmetrical positions <u>within the character column have</u> [[is]] the same <u>shape,</u>

<u>whereby the detection module deletes respective strings</u> ~~and a row~~ of <u>symbol</u>

characters ~~to be deleted~~ <u>as the symbol character column intervals</u> when said count

value is a predetermined value or more.

Claims 7-8 (Canceled)